

Welcome to

# Journey through the Bible



Book by book  
Bible study

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## 1 Timothy

Pastoral Care  
and Conduct  
in the Church

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### Historical Background

- ☆ Pastoral epistles written after Acts 28
- ☆ Paul was released from prison in Rome
- ☆ Ministered in Crete, Corinth, Macedonia, and planned to winter in Nicopolis
- ☆ 1 Timothy written from Macedonia (63-65)
- ☆ Titus was written soon after, (65 A.D.)
- ☆ Paul was arrested in Troas taken to Rome
- ☆ 2 Timothy written shortly before his death
- ☆ Martyred in Rome under Nero, (66-67)

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### Distinctive values of 1 Timothy

1. Provides a manual for church conduct
2. Guidelines for church officers
3. Outlines the order of church services
4. Role of women in the church
5. Care of widows in the church
6. Guidelines for handling church finances
7. Provides a “biography” of Timothy

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**Paul’s salvation and call to ministry**

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, ... The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (1:12–14)

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**Paul’s testimony- from ‘worst to first’**

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. (1:15–16)

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**No. 1 on Timothy’s (our) “to do list”**

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (2:1–4)

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**The central theme of the Gospel**

there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. ... For this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle ... and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.  
(2:5–6)

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**The Christian’s “call to action”**

I want men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. (2:8–10)

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**What is Paul’s point here?**

A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. ... For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. But (*woman*) will be saved through the child birth—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety. (2:11–15) cf. Rom. 5:12ff

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**Tough passage in 1 Timothy- 2:15**

*“Saved through the child birth”*

Physical – Preservation during the physical birth process

Spiritual – Salvation through the physical birth process

Spiritual – Salvation through the incarnation/birth of Christ

The = definite article, a specific birth

Child birth = a singular child birth = Christ

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**“Musts” for Christian Leaders**

The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

(3:1–3)

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**“Musts” for Christian Leaders**

He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God’s church?) (3:4–5)

**A godly home is a leader’s priority**

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**High qualifications for high office**

He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil’s trap. (3:6–7)

**A leader’s walk must match his talk!**

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**Deacons do more than manage church property!**

Deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. (3:8–10)

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**Leadership starts at home!**

Their wives (deaconess) are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

(3:11–13, NIV)

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**The heart of the Christian Gospel**

The mystery from which true godliness springs is great:

Christ appeared in the flesh,  
was vindicated by the Spirit,  
was seen by angels,  
was preached among the nations,  
was believed on in the world,  
was taken up in glory. (3:16)

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**Paul’s “last days” warning**

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods ... (4:1–3)

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**The pastor’s top priority**

If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, ... Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. (4:6–8)

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**The pastor’s motivation for ministry**

This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things  
(4:9–11)

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**Preachers lead by their lives!**

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift ... (4:12-14)

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**Their greatest threat is within!**

Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. (4:15-16)

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**Caring for the church family**

Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity. Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. (5:1-3)

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**Caring for widows in the church**

If a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family ...

The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and ask God for help. ... help those widows who are really in need. (5:4-16)

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**Leaders also need care and support!**

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." (5:17–18)

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**Discipline within church leadership**

Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. But those elders who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning. ... The sins of some are obvious, ... the sins of others trail behind them. (5:19–24)

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**Social and racial issues are not new!**

All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered. Those who have believing masters should not show them disrespect just because they are fellow believers. (6:1–2)

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**The church requires sound teaching!**

These are the things you are to teach and insist on. If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, they are conceited and understand nothing.

(6:2–3)

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**Christianity is not just for the rich!**

They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

(6:4–5)

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**Contentment grows with godliness!**

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. (6:6–8)

**There is no U-Haul behind the hearse!**

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**The peril of pursuing wealth!**

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. (6:9–10)

**It is not money, it is the love of it that leads to ruin and destruction!**

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**God has a better plan, follow it!**

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called ... In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, ... (6:11–13)

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**Paul's charge to Timothy (and us)!**

I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ... To him be honor and might forever. Amen. (6:13–16)

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**Paul's parting commands to Timothy!**

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

(6:17–18)

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**See you next week!**

**Titus**

**Keeping the faith  
in troubled times**



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